

New Music Concerts presents
Spirit of Hong Kong



Sunday December 7, 1997 / 8:00pm
du Maurier Theatre / Harbourfront Centre

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New Music Concerts' third program in its 1997-98 season celebrates the close musical associations between Hong Kong and Toronto with a multi-media presentation entitled **Spirit of Hong Kong**. Hong Kong-born and past-resident composers from four continents will be featured in a program of music by Hong Kong residents Wing-fai Law and Chan Wing-wah, U.K. resident Richard Tsang, Australian Chatpo Koo, Canadians Chan Ka-nin, Alice Ping-Yee Ho and the composer often described as "the father of New Music in Hong Kong", recent Toronto resident Doming Lam.

Featured artists for this event include **Wong Ching**, Hong Kong's leading performer of the difficult Chinese lute known as the *p'i-p'a*; Toronto Symphony clarinetist **Raymond Luedecke**; the outstanding young cellist **Wendy Law** from Boston; Toronto's own **Accordes** string quartet; and the 15 member **New Music Concerts Ensemble** under the direction of flute soloist and conductor **Robert Aitken**.

Wing-fai Law studied composition at the Taiwan Normal University and at the University of California, where he was awarded a Master's Degree. Law is currently the Head of Composition of the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts. His 1995 work, *Ink Spirit* for *p'i-p'a* and string quartet will be performed by *p'i-p'a* soloist **Wong Ching** and the **Accordes** string quartet.

Chan Wing-wah received his undergraduate training from the Chinese University of Hong Kong and received his Master and Doctor of Music degrees in composition from the University of Toronto. Dr. Chan is currently Professor and Chairman in the Music Department at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. The title of his 1989 quartet, *Merge*, refers to the integration of eastern and western techniques and concepts in music. It will be performed by the **Accordes** string quartet.

Richard Tsang also graduated from the Chinese University of Hong Kong and studied abroad at the University of Hull, England where he obtained his Master of Music degree in 1978. He is noted as a composer, conductor and broadcaster as well as a promoter of contemporary music. Mr. Tsang and his family currently reside in England, where he works as a broadcaster and conductor. Clarinetist Raymond Luedecke will perform his 1995 'sound sculpture', *Echo-mime* for clarinet and electronics.

Brian Chatpo Koo is a composer, violinist and conductor. He has studied composition with Prof. Anne Boyd, Prof. Chan Wing-wah, Mr. Doming Lam and Prof. Peter Sculthorpe, and obtained the degrees of Bachelor of Arts and Master of Philosophy in

composition from the University of Hong Kong, and a PhD in composition from the University of Sidney. He is currently a senior faculty member of the Australian Institute of Music in Sydney, Australia, where he teaches composition, harmony and counterpoint. His **String Quartet no. 2** is dedicated to an anonymous girl who was sitting among the hundreds of thousands of students just a few hours before the Tienamen Square massacre in Beijing, China in June of 1989.

Chan Ka-nin was born in Hong Kong and moved with his family to Vancouver in 1965. He studied composition with Jean Coulthard at the University of British Columbia and with Bernhard Heiden at Indiana University. Since 1982 Dr. Chan has been teaching theory and composition at the University of Toronto. The intent of his 1996 work, *Par-çi, par-là*, is to register a social comment on the diversified cultures of Canada from an Asian immigrant's perspective. **Robert Aitken** will conduct the 15-member ensemble, which will be distributed spatially throughout the concert hall.

Alice Ping Yee Ho has lived in Canada since 1982. She has studied composition with John Eaton at Indiana University, John Beckwith at the University of Toronto and Brian Ferneyhough in Germany, and her compositions have been widely performed and broadcast in Canada, the USA, England, Japan, Hong Kong and Korea. Cellist **Wendy Law** will perform her *Caprice* (1994) for solo cello.

Miss Law will join *p'i-p'a* soloist **Wong Ching**, pianist **Kathy Lam** and flutist **Robert Aitken** in the performance of two works by **Doming Lam**: his landmark duo for cello and flute, *Breakthrough I* (1975) and the world premiere of a work composed especially for this concert, *The Inlaid Harp*. One of the leading composers in Hong Kong, **Doming Lam** was also the most active promoter, lecturer, conductor and producer of radio and television music programmes in the city. Maestro Lam studied composition at the University of Toronto in Canada and at the University of Southern California in the USA. He has also pursued studies at the famous Darmstadt Institute for New Music in Germany and is highly acclaimed for successfully introducing new composition techniques from the West into contemporary Chinese music.

In conjunction with our presentation, the **Faculty of Music** of the University of Toronto will present a **public lecture** by the composers from Hong Kong on **Friday, December 5**, from **12:00 to 1:00 pm**, at **Walter Hall** in the Edward Johnson Building.

The concert begins at **8:00 pm** on **Sunday December 7, 1997**, in the **du Maurier Theatre Centre** of Harbourfront Centre, 231 Queen's Quay West. NMC artist director **Robert Aitken** will host a **pre-concert discussion** with the composers in the auditorium at **7:15**. Tickets to the event are priced at \$20 (adult) and \$10 (students and seniors). For **reservations** please call the Harbourfront box office: **(416) 973-4000**.

The assistance of the Government of Canada through Canada's Year of Asia Pacific is gratefully acknowledged. Additional financial support was generously provided by the Composers and Authors Society of Hong Kong Ltd. and the Society of Composers, Authors and Music Publishers of Canada.

Sunday September 28, 1997, The Gallery School, AGO

Introduction 2:15pm, Concert 3:00pm

Guitar Evolutions/The Body Electric

1997
1998 season
new music concerts



Sunday November 2, 1997, The Glenn Gould Studio, CBC

Introduction 7:15pm, Concert 8:00pm

Voix/Made in Canada Festival

Sunday December 7, 1997, du Maurier Theatre

Introduction 7:15pm, Concert 8:00pm

Spirit of Hong Kong /

Canada's Year of Asia Pacific

Sunday April 5, 1998, The Glenn Gould Studio, CBC

Introduction 7:15pm, Concert 8:00pm,

An Elliott Carter Jubilee

Sunday April 19, 1998, The Glenn Gould Studio, CBC

Introduction 7:15pm, Concert 8:00

La Revue Burlesque

Wednesday May 20, 1998, George Weston Recital Hall

Introduction 7:15pm, Concert 8:00pm

Lost Composers III

with readings by Anne Michaels

author of the award-winning novel,

"Fugitive Pieces"

**For further information, ticket prices,
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call New Music Concerts 416 961 9594**